United Nations S/2001/740

Security Council

Distr.: General
27 July 2001

Original: English

Letter dated 27 July 2001 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to forward a letter from Mr. Goran Svilanovic, Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, dated 25 July 2001, addressed to Mr. Hans Haekkerup, your Special Representative and Head of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Vladislav **Mladenovic**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Annex to the letter dated 27 July 2001 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I was informed on 17 July 2001 by the UNMIK Office in Belgrade that UNMIK had adopted "Guidelines for Visits of Government Officials and Political Entity Representatives from the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia" to Kosovo.

Regrettably, these Guidelines, instead of facilitating visits of government officials and political party representatives from the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to Kosovo, have introduced solutions that largely impede such visits and could even make them impossible in practice. The formalities required, including conditions for approval and periods for the submission of requests for visits, contain very serious restrictions which imply relations between sovereign States. They are clearly inappropriate with regard to visits by individuals from the rest of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to Kosovo and Metohija, which is an integral part of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and of its constituent Republic of Serbia. The Guidelines are preventing access by political parties and their activists to Kosovo and Metohija and undermining their activities in the Province, which may affect their decision to take part in the forthcoming elections.

As I have repeatedly pointed out in our discussions, cooperation between the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and UNMIK and the International Security Force in Kosovo (KFOR) is crucial for the full implementation of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999). The Governments of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Republic of Serbia have undertaken great efforts to promote cooperation with the international community. It seems, however, that UNMIK has unfortunately introduced measures not fully conducive to fruitful cooperation. This brings about an absurd situation in which the democratic authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia now have to meet conditions that were not even required of the regime of Slobodan Milosević.

In the interest of our further cooperation and with a view to our joint efforts to achieve the goals set out in resolution 1244 (1999), I call on you to reconsider the solutions contained in the Guidelines. I avail myself of this opportunity to reiterate once again our readiness to settle this and other matters by an agreement on cooperation with, and the status of, UNMIK.

(*Signed*) Goran **Svilanović**